

BYRNES ON THE SCENE.

Name of Congressman's Secretary Not Announced.

Washington, March 29.—Congressman Jas. F. Byrnes, of the 2nd district, who will take his seat in the house next Tuesday, reached Washington to-day. Mr. Byrnes has not yet decided who he will name as his secretary. When asked about the matter he stated that he would not make any announcement for several days, but that as soon as he became settled he would make public the name of the man who would serve him while here.

It is probable that Mr. Byrnes will be assigned a room on the first floor of the house office building. On this floor there are already four of the South Carolina members, Messrs. Legare, Finley, Aiken and Ellerbe. Nothing can be learned yet concerning the committee places which will go to Mr. Byrnes.

The ways and means committee is still at work trying to please the members by giving them what they want, but the task is a big one, hence nothing definite will be known until after the caucus of Friday. Of the remaining members of the South Carolina delegation Mr. Lever is already here and the others are expected to return to-morrow and Friday.

Children Hurt in School Fire.

Demorest, Ga., March 29.—A score or more of children were injured, none fatally, when they were forced to jump from windows of the Hill school building at Piedmont college here to-day when fire was discovered in that structure. There were more than 400 pupils and teachers in the building at the time, but all made their escape. The fire started in the basement from the heating apparatus and burned fiercely. The building is occupied by the primary grades and nothing prevented a heavy loss of life except the fact that the second-story windows were so close to the ground. The damage is estimated at \$2,000.

Says He Obeyed Law.

"I know that I am obeying the law as it is written," Gov. Blease made this statement in discussing the judgeship matter.

He said that he knew that there were disengaged circuit judges that might have served at all of the special courts to have been held, but which were abolished for the lack of a judge.

"I have affidavits and evidence in my hands and will send a message to the next general assembly on the situation," he said. He did not state the nature of the affidavits, but intimated that they showed that there were disengaged circuit judges when the supreme court said that there were no disengaged circuit judges.

The law requires that the governor shall commission special judges upon the recommendation of the supreme court, and that the supreme court must recommend some one learned in the law when there is not a disengaged circuit judge available for the court.

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Ex-Chief Justice Pope Dead.

Newberry, March 30.—Young John Pope formerly chief justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, died yesterday afternoon at his residence in this city after a long illness.

Judge Pope is survived by his widow and one daughter, Mrs. Blackshear, of Georgia, and by his stepdaughter, Mrs. George Johnstone, of Newberry, all of whom were present at his bedside.

Judge Pope was in his seventy-first year. Born at Newberry, he was educated here and at Furman University, Greenville. He fought through the war between the States, coming out as assistant adjutant of Kershaw's brigade. In 1865 he was elected district judge for Newberry county and served until he was displaced by the radical government. In 1874 he was elected mayor of Newberry and served two terms. In the famous State bond cases, he was chosen by the legislature to assist the attorney general, their efforts resulting in a saving to the State of nearly a million dollars.

In 1890, Judge Pope became attorney general, being elected on the Tillman ticket and the following year he was elected associate justice of the supreme court, which position he held until his elevation to the chief justiceship.

About two years ago Judge Pope resigned because of illness. Since that time Justice Pope has lived in quiet retirement at his home in Newberry.

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WILL SIGN ASYLUM BILL.

Will Also Appoint "A Commission," States Governor Blease.

Columbia, March 29.—Gov. Blease announced to-night that he will sign the asylum bill, and that he will appoint a commission, but he has not yet decided whether or not he will reappoint all the members of the original commission. The commissions of the commissioners expire in April, and the governor will sign the measure very probably day after tomorrow.

The asylum resolution provides for the continuing of a commission to carry out the work originally planned and for the expenditure of \$200,000 for the erection of a building for the asylum. The commission had already purchased the land and made certain improvements on the old plant. The idea is to segregate the races and this will be done as fast as the new buildings are erected. "Will you reappoint the present commission?" Gov. Blease was asked. "That's what I haven't fully decided yet," replied the governor. "I will say, however, that I am going to appoint a commission."

The asylum resolution gives the governor power to appoint new members or to reappoint the old commission. The resolution was somewhat of a compromise upon the original, which simply renamed the old commission and continued the members in the office.

The following are members of the present asylum commission: James W. Babcock, Columbia, chairman; Robert Wilson, Jr., Charleston; R. O. Purdy, Sumter; Leroy Spring, Lancaster; Geo. B. Cromer, Newberry, secretary. The commission bought several tracts of land for the new buildings.

RAISED A BIG RUMPUS.

White Girl Refused to Pose Before Negro Student.

The race question came up in the Chicago Art Institute on last Tuesday, and for a time threatened to disrupt a class when a white girl who had been recently employed as a model refused to pose while a negro student remained in the room. After a consultation with his fellow students the negro artist to whom exception had been taken relieved the situation temporarily by walking from the room. The matter is not settled, as the girl says she will not pose for the class while the negro is in it. Most of the class sustain the girl.

Will Drop Naval Cadets.

Washington, March 30.—Nineteen members of the first and four members of the second class at the naval academy at Annapolis will be dropped at the end of the present academic year, owing to physical disability, having failed to pass the second tests, which were required after they were examined some time ago and found to be deficient physically for the service. The members of the first class will be awarded their diplomas for scholastic work.

Sumter's Mayor Resigns Office.

Sumter, March 31.—News leaked out that Mayor L. D. Jennings had filed with the city clerk his resignation to take effect April 11. To a newspaper man Mayor Jennings talked freely of the cause that led to his action. This was the vote of council Tuesday night when a contract he had made for a loan at 6 per cent. was repudiated and another loan at the same rate was ordered.

The mayor says he acted with authority, and feels so keenly the repudiation of council that he wrote the bank he was dealing with a full statement of the case, sent a copy of his resignation and asked it for a statement of interest lost from the time he told it the city would take the money till the day after council met, when he advised that the city would not use the money. He will remit this personally he says.

The resignation was dated April 11, as that is the date the next meeting of council, and the mayor did not wish to cause confusion by having an interregnum without a regular head of city government.

To Make Survey of Edisto.

Orangeburg, March 30.—The engineers, who are to make the governmental survey of the Edisto river, are expected to arrive in this city during the first part of April, to begin the official survey. This work has been somewhat delayed on account of the removal of Capt. E. M. Adams from Charleston, as he was in charge of this work.

At the recent session of congress an act was passed authorizing an appropriation for an official survey of the Edisto river from the city of Orangeburg to the mouth of the stream, with a view of opening the river to navigation. Three engineers are to come here to make the survey. The survey is to be a complete one and will take some time.

WILKINSON PRESIDENT.

Head of Negro State College Was Selected.

The board of trustees of the State negro college last Wednesday, at a meeting held in the office of Gov. Blease, elected R. S. Wilkinson, president of the institution to succeed T. E. Miller, who resigned following a resolution by the board several weeks ago. Wilkinson is at present vice president of the institution, and will take charge of the institution in June.

When asked how the vote stood Gov. Blease said: "The name of Wilkinson was the only one presented for the place. The vote was four to two and I moved to make the election unanimous, which was done."

Besides electing a president, the board yesterday reinstated N. C. Nix to a full professorship. Nix was discharged last fall following an altercation with T. E. Miller, the retiring president of the college.

The newly elected president, Wilkinson, was born in Charleston. He passed the examination and was admitted to West Point, but was rejected on account of his physical condition. He later graduated at a college in Ohio and was given two degrees. He is the only negro electrical engineer in the State.

Among the other names that had been mentioned for the position were: R. W. Nance, N. J. Frederick, J. J. Durham, W. W. Cook. The position pays a salary of \$1,800 a year.

Tuten Dies of His Wounds.

Savannah, Ga., March 29.—The remains of George W. Tuten, whose death occurred at the St. Joseph's hospital as the result of gunshot wounds inflicted several weeks ago when he was ambushed near his home at Furman, S. C., were taken this morning to Stafford, S. C., for interment. The funeral and interment took place there to-day. Mr. Tuten was brought to Savannah in a critical condition the night after the shooting. For a while there was little hope of his recovery. He developed pneumonia from exposure before he was brought to Savannah.

His condition later showed some signs of improvement until a few days ago, when he rapidly declined, death following yesterday. The deceased was a native of South Carolina and was 39 years of age. He is survived by his wife and several brothers and sisters who reside in South Carolina.

He was engaged in business in Furman where the shooting occurred.

Unusual Nerve on Gallows.

Pottsville, Pa., March 30.—A remarkable display of nerve was made in the county jail yard here to-day by Joseph Christcock as he was about to be hanged for the murder last fall of Mrs. Ann Richards. Declining the proffered assistance of a priest and deputy sheriff, the man walked smilingly from his cell to the foot of the gallows and ran lightly up the steps.

It was a public hanging and about the gallows stood 1,500 persons to whom Christcock waved his hand. Then he reached up, grasped the noose and placed it around his neck, put his arms by his side to be strapped and smilingly said: "Good-bye, all."

The nerved man then held his head in position for the adjustment of the black cap and in another moment the trap was sprung. He was dead in 12 minutes.

Before going to the gallows Christcock made a complete confession, declaring he had shot the woman when he was detected by her attempting to mistreat her daughter. He told of numerous highway robberies and burglaries he had committed in the neighborhood and wound up his confession by saying he deserved to be hanged for his crimes. He joked of death to the very end.

Cuts His Father's Throat.

Atlanta, Ga., April 1.—John Peyton, 21 years old, attacked his father on the street here to-day and cut his throat with a knife. Although the wound is serious it is thought the elder Peyton will recover. The trouble was caused, according to the youth, when the father refused to give up \$370 which had been awarded to the son for the loss of his arm in a cotton mill. The father sued, the son being a minor, and then it is claimed he refused to give the boy the money.

Petition for Pardon.

A petition for the pardon of Geo. Hasty, who is serving a life sentence from Cherokee county on the charge of killing two men, has been filed with Gov. Blease for consideration. The papers have been referred to the judge and solicitor for a recommendation. Hasty killed two actors in a hotel at Gaffney. The trial attracted a great deal of attention. He was convicted on the specific charge of killing one of the men. The men killed were actors in a troop playing in the theatre at Gaffney.

PAROLED TWO SALUDA MEN.

Were Convicted of Waylaying and Killing N. M. Morse.

Arrested on the charge of waylaying and assassinating N. M. Morse, a farmer in Saluda county and given long prison terms on a verdict of manslaughter, Alfred Free and W. L. Henderson, two white men from Saluda county, were last Thursday paroled by Gov. Blease on the condition of good behavior and that they never drink "one drink of whiskey again." The crime was committed in 1904 and caused a great deal of interest at the time.

"I do not believe that the men are guilty," said Gov. Blease in commenting on the case. Judge Watts, who heard the case recommended executive clemency, while Solicitor Cooper, who prosecuted the case, said that he could not recommend a pardon.

Alfred Free was sentenced in 1905 to 10 years in the penitentiary and W. L. Henderson to 12 years. They were brought to the penitentiary after several trials, where they remained for some time, but were later transferred to the Saluda county chain gang upon a certificate from Dr. F. W. C. Butler as to ill health of the prisoners.

No More Whiskey.

"If they ever take one drink of whiskey," said Gov. Blease, "that will be sufficient cause for them to be returned to prison to complete their sentences."

A special from Saluda, April 14, 1905, states that the first trial of the case resulted in a mistrial and Judge Prince so ordered it. It is understood that five of the jurors were for acquittal and seven for conviction.

N. M. Morse was on his way home during the night from Edgefield, where he had been on business. He was fired upon from the roadside.

The killing of N. M. Morse was at the time regarded as an assassination. He was killed by a bullet from a Crag-Jorgensen rifle, perhaps the first man in the State whose life was taken with such a weapon. W. L. Henderson, who was charged with the crime, had been tried for his life on the charge of killing Jack Bladen. Bladen in turn had killed Bozzard, a dispensary spy, who had killed an inoffensive old man. Bozzard had been convicted of murder, but was pardoned by Gov. Tillman before the ink on his sentence was dry. Quite a long chain of homicides, four in succession and perhaps others not recorded.

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Wants the Spoils.

Gov. Blease has refused to appoint three members of the commission named to relieve the congested condition of the State hospital for the insane.

He said Saturday that he would commission Dr. J. W. Babcock, superintendent of the asylum, and Dr. Robert Wilson, Jr., of Charleston. He said that he would not commission George B. Cromer, of Newberry, Leroy Springs, of Lancaster, and R. O. Purdy, of Sumter.

"The other three members of the commission will be Blease men," said the governor.

He said that the personnel of the commission would be announced Monday, and that he would sign the measure of the last general assembly providing for further work of improving the asylum and erecting the building on the new site acquired by the old commission.

"In making these appointments," said Gov. Blease, "I believe in the slogan, 'To the victor belongs the spoils.'"

Buried Beneath Great Tree.

Gainesville, Ga., March 29.—Buried one foot in the ground, but still alive and with a great tree lying lengthwise across his body, J. D. Tanner, a woodcutter, was found today by passersby in the woods near this city. When he regained consciousness Tanner stated that the tree was blown down while being cut. He had been pinned into the soft earth for several hours before being found. He is expected to recover.

Do Ghosts Haunt Swamps?

No, never. Its foolish to fear a fancied evil, when there are real and deadly perils to guard against in swamps and marshes, bayous, and lowlands. These are the malaria germs that cause ague, chills and fever, weakness, aches in the bones and muscles and may induce deadly typhoid. But Electric Bitters destroys and casts out these vicious germs from the blood. "Three bottles drove all the malaria from my system," wrote Wm. Fretwell, of Lucama, N. C., "and I have had fine health ever since." Use this safe, sure remedy only. 50c. at Peoples Drug Co., Bamberg, S. C.

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